

# WESTERN UNION.

O. CLEMENS, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.  
HANNIBAL, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1850.

**Agents for the Western Union.**  
Wm. H. Potts and W. B. Tupper, of Paris, Mo.  
R. H. Buchanan and John A. Quarles, of Florida.  
Thomas E. Thompson, of Palmyra.  
Wm. O. Young, of New London.  
J. L. Canfield, of Mexico.  
Mr. H. B. of Clinton.  
George B. B. of Barry, Ill.

The above named gentlemen are authorized to give receipts for money due to the Western Union Office. Postmasters are requested to allow us to add them to the list.

## BOGS.

Since our last the buyers have all freely entered the market at \$2 75 to \$3 00 dividing on 200 lbs at which figures considerable sales have been made and in some cases small premiums above these prices, have been paid for extra lots. The warm and unsettled state of the weather has served to put a stop to slaughtering. Several lots are now in the pens waiting for the knife.

In all probability, the number cut here this season will fall short of last year's cutting but not enough to justify the continual croaking about short crops.

## DEER.

The number of cattle packed this season at this point will fall considerably short of last year's cuttings, but the quality and weight, will greatly exceed that of last year. There are still some lots unsold which will meet with a ready market and quick sales. The prices say for cattle averaging 600 lbs and upwards, \$3 25 per 100 lbs net with the usual grade of 25 cents off for every 25 lbs less.

**THE TEA PARTY.**—Owing to Mr. Hawkins' lecture, and the inclemency of the night, the Tea Party, on Thursday Evening, had not a very full attendance. The receipts were ninety-four dollars.

**DELIRIUM TREMENS.**—Mr. Hawkins stated in his lecture on Friday evening, that pure whiskey or brandy drunk in any quantity never gives any one delirium tremens. It is the poison with which liquor is now adulterated, that produces the effect. He says that thirty years ago, the disease was scarcely known. Now men have it who are never known to get drunk; who may be called moderate drinkers. Imported brandy is now taken from the Custom House—brandy that will sell for three, four, and five dollars a gallon—and analyzed, and found to contain the most deadly poisons; adulterated right where it is made. After it is taken from the custom house, by the wholesale dealer, it is often adulterated again; he sells it, and the buyer puts some more poison in it and so goes on the poisoning business.

The Fleetwood has withdrawn from the St. Louis and Keokuk trade.

**THE WEATHER.**—We had snow and rain here last Thursday night. A heavy snow storm visited Quincy on the same night. At Canton, Illinois, snow fell to the depth of one inch, on the 22d. The weather is said to be quite cold, in the vicinity of Galena. Fever river was filled with ice on the 18th. Heavy snow storms have visited the region above the Lower Rapids.

In Hannibal, it is now warm, rainy, and very muddy. It is entirely too warm for slaughtering.

The Columbia Statesman comes out in a new dress—entire new type.

**HANNIBAL AND ST. JOSEPH RAILROAD.**—We have been saving the address of "Many citizens of Upper Missouri," with the intention of condensing it; but find on a more careful reading, that it won't well bear condensing. We shall therefore give it entire, next week.

**LOUISA WILLIAMS.**—The authoress of the story on our first page, is one of our own citizens. The editor of the Oquawka Spectator says that it added two hundred to his subscription list.

**THANKSGIVING.**—Next Thursday week (12th December), the day appointed by Gov. King, as a day of "prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God, for his favor extended to us nationally and individually."

**TRI-WEEKLY AT BOONEVILLE.**—The Booneville Observer comes to us this week, with an increased quantity of reading matter in it, and a prospectus for a Tri-weekly. This looks like prosperity.

**DEATH OF JOHN F. BRYANT.**—This young gentleman was very well known in Monroe county. He died in San Francisco, California recently.

**NEW NOVEL.**—We have received a copy of "Cato," a new novel, by G. G. Foster, editor of the New York Day Book. Price 25 cents. It is got up in handsome style. The author desires to show that men are never so depraved, but that a latent spark of virtue still lingers in their breasts, which, by proper means, may be lighted up, and produce a reformation. We shall endeavor to find room for a chapter next week or two.

## Political Realities, and Effects of Legislation.

We take the following article from a commercial paper of long standing, and a reliable source called "The Dry Goods Reporter and Commercial Glance," of the 9th of this month. This paper is published simultaneously in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, and is considered in the money world, a true index to commercial values, money and stocks.

We ask for the article an attentive perusal, and beg our readers not to be deterred, from its length, and to consider attentively, the bearing of each proposition. We would also call the attention of members elect to our Legislature, to the condition, operation, and expiration of charters of the banks, under the Safety Fund system. The first charter to expire is set down at July 1st, 1852, less than two years. Four of them have about three years to run; four about four years; three about seven, and three twelve to fourteen years to run. So that a large amount of the chartered capital of those banks must be moved up—and consequently, reinvested within three to five years; and all, as fast as their charters expire, appear to fall under a Free Banking law. The dividends of the reserved, or "safety funds," show us, the editor says, "a property," and made "by full lines of discounts, at rates for money something under the legal rate," show that besides a liberal circulation to the State and to the country, it has been a sound and convertible currency. The remarks upon the Mexican trade—and the change of route being established for that trade, via the Rio Grande, instead of "Independence, Missouri, ought to arouse the attention of Missouri, and her representatives in Congress.

We have said thus much, in the hope that the people and their representatives will take the necessary steps to invite the liberated capital of New York and other States, and, also, that they will insist upon facilities for our overland Mexican, California, and Oregon trade. The outfit, and two hundred thousand head of stock, for every succeeding year, in that trade, ought not to be overlooked. This is an agricultural interest, the commercial interest leads and sustains it.

## New York Money Market.

NEW YORK.  
Friday Evening, Nov. 8, 1850.  
The stock market has shown a more considerable degree of buoyancy this week—sales are larger, and prices more generally in advance. The demand for sound stocks in the foreign market, continues good, and even the securities of the federal appear to be entirely unaffected by the various issues of contending political parties here. We have mentioned that the Delaware and Hudson Canal has made an issue of \$1,200,000 of new stock, for the purpose of improving this Canal. This has all been taken up, notwithstanding the proneness of foreigners to undervalue the stability of our institutions, and the outcries that have been raised here upon the subject, foreign faith remains unshaken in securities, which in the event of such a calamity as dissolution, would not be worth a rush. The operations of railroads and of various institutions, exhibit such results in the practical form of dividends, as to encourage the investment of capital, and therefore to promote the market values of most descriptions. In relation to the Banks of this city, which yet do business under the Safety Fund Law, the following table shows the date of the expiration of the charter, the capital, rate of dividends declared this year, and the amount of undivided profits on hand, June 30, 1850.

## United Profits of Safety Fund Banks—City of New York.

Bank	Charter Expires	Capital	Dividend	Profits
City Bank	July 1, 1852	720,000	10	20
Bank of America	Jan 1, 1853	2,000,000	7	18
Bank of N. York	Jan 1, 1854	1,000,000	10	19
Union Bank	Jan 1, 1853	1,000,000	10	22
Bu. & Dietz's Bk	Jan 1, 1853	500,000	10	31
Mechanics' Bank	Jan 1, 1855	1,400,000	10	31
Phoenix Bank	Jan 1, 1851	1,200,000	7	40
Greenwich Bank	Jan 1, 1855	200,000	10	29
Traders' Bk	Jan 1, 1855	400,000	10	24
Merchant's Bank	Jan 1, 1857	1,500,000	8	14
Mech's & Trd's Bk	Jan 1, 1857	200,000	10	28
National Bank	Jan 1, 1857	750,000	8	18
Leather-Merchants' Bk	Jan 1, 1852	600,000	8	20
7th Ward Bank	Jan 1, 1863	800,000	8	15
Bk of State N. Y.	Jan 1, 1868	2,000,000	8	12

These institutions are pretty good property, according to these figures, and will have a handsome surplus to divide among stockholders when their business passes under the operations of the free law at the expiration of their charters. It has been thus far the experience that the operations of the banks under new law are more profitable than the banks with large chartered capitals. The dividends declared this year have been on full lines of discounts, at rates for money, something under the legal rate, and kept down, not only by the rivalry of free banks having no legal limit to their discount line, but of also private lenders. The railroads are continually improving in value, by reason of the developments which their own operations produce in the resources of the regions through which they pass. The exchange market continues firm at 10 a 10 1-4 per cent, for sterling.

The business of the port of New York for the month of October, compared with the three previous years, shows more than 100 per cent increase in the exports of produce, and specie has become an important and regular staple export. A large proportion of it is of the Mexican dollars which are derived from the growing and important trade with Mexico through the Rio Grande region. The consumption of American goods in the adjacent territories of Mexico is very large and increasing so much that a very considerable proportion of the produce of the "dollar mines," finds its way into New Orleans, and thence percolates through channels of trade to New York and becomes an article of export. A change in the Mexican tariff is promised, and a modification of it would doubtless enhance the international trade, but the known preponderance of English influence which has so long produced discrimination against American manufactures will doubtless continue to do so. The quantities of Eastern Cotton Cloth which found their destination will be speedily supplanted by the productions of the great valley which will go down the Mississippi to the Rio Grande.

The Mexican business is of itself capable of great development under decent commercial regulations, but the system of corruption engendered by high taxes and official plunder, has ruined the resources of the country. A degree of comparatively free commerce would cement the expensive smuggling business in a regular and large demand for goods at fair prices and at once improve the condition of the Mexican people. As it is, the payments made by them for goods smuggled in, furnish a large proportion of the silver which leaves our shores weekly for France. Such a reform has been long promised, but as long as English councils prevail, there is but little chance of any modification of system by which their trade is so much benefited at the expense of the United States. The settlements along the Rio Grande are producing however an immense change in the course of Western trade. Formerly the trade with Mexico was carried on by caravans from Independence, Missouri, across the prairies, by a dangerous and expensive route, to Santa Fe. That trade is now finding its way up the Rio Grande to a point where it intersects the route of the caravans on their way to Santa Fe. River steamers therefore supplant the Conestoga wagons at an immense saving of time and money. The gradual influence of these changes is producing an important effect upon the people of the Northern provinces of Mexico. Already it has been noticed that the ancient ignorance of the people has been penetrated by schools and a new system of instruction which their intercourse with the keen traders of the North is making daily more practical. The evil feelings engendered by prostitution are giving way to the spirit of commerce and a new feeling of progress has possessed them.

**PETERSON'S MAGAZINE.**—The publishers of this monthly intend to increase the amount of reading matter, and to spare no expense in the way of embellishments. The fashion plates are to be beautiful pictures, and in advance of every contemporary. Mrs. ANN S. STREVEN, will continue to edit the work. In 1851 they will give a series of national stories, located North, South, East, and West. Terms—single copy, two dollars; three copies five dollars; eight copies ten dollars, with a large sized premium picture to the organizer of the club. Address C. J. PETERSON, No. 98, Chesnut Street, Philadelphia.

**CALIFORNIA.**—A letter in the Burlington Hawkeye says it is very sickly in California and that a great many die for want of attention. So many gloomy letters from California, will probably make the emigration to that country a very slender one, next spring, the writer says:—  
The country offers no inducements to the emigrant who wishes to become an actual citizen. It is now bankrupt, and yet the poll tax is \$8.

**A LOUNGEBESTEAD.**—This is an invention of Mr. Ellet's, No. 50 Market Street St. Louis. It is a handsome lounge—an ornamental piece of furniture—in the day time, and when unfolded, at night, is large enough for a small family to sleep on. It has met with a ready sale in St. Louis, is much praised by the papers, and is probably by this time patented. It is especially commended to families crowded for room, and to lawyers and physicians sleeping in their own offices.

See Mr. Ellet's advertisement of auction sale of furniture.

**Letter from Col. Benton.**  
We are permitted to take the following extract from a letter written by Col. Benton to Wm. P. HARRISON, Esq.—our Mayor.

St. Louis, Nov. 10, 1850.

DEAR SIR:—Your letter was duly received, and in part reply to it, I can give my opinion in relation to the prospect of a grant of land from Congress in aid of the St. Joseph and Hannibal rail road; and can refer you to my speech at this place as part of my answer. I believe such aid will be given. I believe also, that the two per cent fund, as mentioned in that speech, can be got for that, and the St. Louis and Pacific rail road; and I further think that the sense of the State ought to be taken on the question of surrendering to these two roads, and the draining of the Great Swamp, the future accruing sums from the three per cent fund, with an advance upon the same at once from the State in anticipation of such future receipts. I would look upon these two items as a very considerable help. The two per cent now would be nearly a quarter of a million of dollars; if the whole five per cent should hereafter take that direction, it will be a large help, and with the aid of a land grant, and private subscriptions, may soon accomplish both works. The future receipts from the three and the two per cent fund, may become large and rapid. The time has now become propitious for pushing the graduation bill, the objects of which were, rapid sales of the public lands at prices reduced according to quality—pre-emption to actual settlers—and the grant of the unsold remainder to the States in which they lie for purposes of internal improvement. The United States now again have a considerable debt, and the prompt payment of it is desirable both to avoid annual interest and to get rid of the principal. Rapid sales, at graduated prices, will accomplish those objects, and besides giving the new States all their lands for settlement and taxation, will soon give us the whole of the five per cent fund.

THOS. H. BENTON.

Written for the Western Union.

## BENTON.

"There are minds, of which the chief wishes of evil are, not those whom it is virtuous to view with disapprobation; but to those whom it is vice not to view with emotions of esteem and veneration."

Whilst good men from all sections of our country, are singing praises to Clay, Webster, Cass, and those other good and wise statesmen of our land, who estimated personal consistency and legislative forms as nothing, when weighed in the balance with the peace and quiet of their country, and who were willing to modify their opinions, and make concessions, in order to remove the mutual hostility of different sections, and secure harmony to the Union, Thomas H. Benton is engaged in the ignoble pursuit of belittling them with his dirty billingsgate. His disposition is such that he cannot view with a decent patience even, the success of others; but with a mean envy, that pales and sickens at their prosperity, he seems to regard the honors conferred upon his superiors, as so much taken from himself. His hatred enlarges with their growing virtues, and increases in direct proportion to the merit of his adversaries. Mr. Benton, of all the prominent men in the United States, is the only one who could conceive the mean thought that there was any low trickery in the conduct, or any selfish feeling in the heart of Henry Clay, during his recent struggles in the Senate of the United States, in behalf of the compromise. Bowed down by age and long service, the old patriot had retired to his peaceful home, to spend the remainder of his days remote from scenes of political turmoil, but when the alarm-bell was sounded, of danger to the cherished institutions of his country, he felt his strength return, and disregarding the ailments of home, flew to the rescue of his country. He is above the reach of the shafts of calumny. Demagogues may crank their hoarse censures against him, but the glad acclamations of his countrymen will drown them. In 1820, he rescued us from the dangers of the "Missouri Question"; in 1832, he averted the storm of South Carolina nullification; and, in 1850, by the display of abilities and exertions almost superhuman, sustained by a patriotism which admitted no thought of self, and aided by a noble ship, he has, a third time, brought the gallant crew of State safely into harbor. May God preserve him for his country, in the crisis which is approaching! Thrice has he won—may he win a fourth time—the title of the "Great Pacificator," and long live to enjoy it, worming though it be, to his envious contemporary!

It is doubtful whether the security expended on Mr. Clay, is more disgusting than the adulation bestowed upon General Taylor. So affectionate has Col. Benton become towards Gen. Taylor, that he cannot bear converse to be cast upon him, even by remote implication. No censor, however, was ever cast on Gen. Taylor; we all respected his patriotism and ability, and Col. Benton knew it. The clumsy demagogue threw out his remarks as a bait to Taylor men, supposing that some would be fools enough to swallow it. But all these crocodile tears are shed over the grave of Taylor, because he appointed Col. Fremont Boundary Commissioner in California, which was as much as to say that he "disapproved of the action of the Court Martial!" Col. Benton betrays a wilful blindness, not to see that the motive for the appointment was to be found in the fact of Col. Fremont's supposed superior knowledge of the country (which Col. Benton is so boastful on other occasions), and not because Gen. Taylor wished to say that he "disapproved of the action of the Court Martial!" This is flat imbecility, and his friends must feel ashamed of him for it.

Let us pass on to an examination of his course, his action and inaction, in regard to the fugitive slave bill—facts we admit. He voted in the Senate of the United States, against two amendments to the bill, and failing to vote for the bill itself. "I did not vote upon the engrossment," says Col. Benton. "This is true. I neither voted for nor against it, and will tell you the reason why. I deemed the bill injudicious, but was willing for my friends to try it. I voted with them to make it suitable to them. There was no constitutional objection; and I was willing for them to pass it without any draw back from my opinion of it; and such would have been the case, if it had not been from the silly and false attacks on me for missing one vote, by those who are so indifferent to the conduct and motives of those who missed nearly all." These are Col. Benton's own words. He felt the necessity of such a law; he knew that slave property was not sufficiently protected; that it was due, in common justice, that Congress should pass an efficient law to protect it; that under the existing law at that time, Southern men hazarded, and generally without success, their very lives to recapture their property; they were justly clamorous for an amendment to the law; and yet our Senator—the Senator from a slave State, knowing these things not only fails to vote for it, but fails even to suggest to Senators what he regards as the injudicious parts of the bill, fails to propose even an amendment to it, or a good substitute for it, and "leaves it to its fate." Is this discharging his duty as our representative? He says that he was opposed to this bill, that he regarded it as injudicious, and designedly failed to vote for it. In this he is opposed to the opinions of a large number of Benton men, who, in meetings held last summer in this State, expressed themselves in favor of it. But he has a right to oppose it; it was his duty if he thought it injudicious; but it was likewise his duty to propose a better bill, or such alterations in this as would make it judicious, and as would enable him to protect the interests of his State. In not doing it, he is chargeable with a high crime of omission. It is not sufficient for Col. Benton to say that he regarded it as injudicious; he can never stand excused before the people of Missouri, until he shows that he endeavored to engrave upon it proper amendments, and failed in the effort. After showing this we would still be entitled to know from the Senator what his objections were, and what were his proposed amendments. But he proposed none, and not only failed to state in the Senate what were his objections to the bill, but when "silly and false attacks," as he says, have forced him to withdraw from the friends of the bill the aid of that magnanimous silence as to his opinion, which is the only aid he has ever given the South; and he appears before the people of his State to stamp it with his disapprobation, he leaves them as much in the dark as to his objections as he had previously left the Senate of the United States. The fact is that Col. Benton is gambling for that advancement which he could never secure by legitimate labor; and whilst pandering to the passions of Northern free-soilers is yet reluctant to give up the hope of securing his native State.

Southern men have never urged any objection to the bill; the wits of Northern men have found only two—the denial of a trial by jury, and the protection of the Habeas Corpus—and Col. Benton, by his vote shows that he did not object to it for either of those reasons. He does not state his objection, and no one can imagine what it is. Is this the openness and candor of honesty? or does it look like skulking fraud?

He has raised his voice against nullification in the South; in the whole vocabulary of bitterness, nothing was too bitter to say against her distinguished son; and he seems to have forgotten, entirely, that Northern States have resisted the authority of Congress. He seems to have forgotten that, during the administration of George Washington, the native State of David Wilmot—that virtuous phenomenon—the author of the "Proviso," offered to the execution of the "Excise Law" an armed and actual resistance so strong that the Father of his Country felt bound to call into service 15,000 men, to suppress it. He seems to have forgotten that, according to the testimony of Jno. Quincy Adams, the resistance to the "Embargo," passed during the administration of Mr. Jefferson, was carried so far, in Union-loving Massachusetts, as almost to dissolve the Union, and lead to the formation of a New England confederacy; he recollects nothing of the Hartford Convention; he seems also to be inobscure of the infamous proceedings, in our own times, of Northern Abolitionists, who renounce the Constitution of the United States, and in their sacrilegious zeal, repudiate the religion of the Savior! Yes! to Northern men Col. Benton is forbearing—  
"To their faults a little blind—  
"To their virtues very kind!"

But the faults of the South he bares to the view with the unfeeling hand of the surgeon; and never thinks of, surely never mentions, the wrongs and injuries that have driven them into rashness.  
The South can well spare him; we neither want his sympathy nor his aid. Let him affiliate, as he has been doing, with Northern Free-soilers; let him "dull his palm with entertainment" of such comrades as Hale (his good friend) Seward and Chase. The South can never regard him, but in the light of a traitor.  
His St. Louis speech is the weakest of all weak abortions that ever fell from the lips of a disappointed demagogue; composed as it is of "strong assertions without proof, declamation without argument, and violent censures without moderation or dignity;" and we can only account for it on the supposition that the little remnant of his conscience has confounded him, and that, acting against its dictates of solemn duty, the once strong man has become powerless.

## MISSOURI.

### Missouri University.

The Columbia Statesman, advocates the repeal, by the next Legislature, of the Curator law of last session, requiring the selection of Curators from various parts of the State. The editor says that since this "law took effect, it has been difficult, and often impossible, to get together a sufficient number of curators to do business." He says that the last meeting advertised, was a failure, not a single member residing out of Boone county, being present. We take the following extract from his article:—

According to the existing law the number of Curators is eighteen, chosen in the following manner, to-wit: One from each judicial circuit and four from the county of Boone. At the semi-annual meetings, eleven constitute a quorum to do business; at the special meetings, seven. Not a wheel therefore can be turned without the attendance of from three to seven of the distant members. If these fail, as they often do, the term lapses and nothing is done; the business of the institution, no difference how important it may be, goes untransacted.

Retain, if you please, Curators from various sections of the State. Choose one in every county if you see proper, but in any contingency elect a quorum to do business in the vicinity of the institution.  
Second, for the first and only instance, as far as we know, in the history of public institutions of learning the Curators are paid for their services, and paid too out of the proceeds of the Seminary fund. Paid \$2 a day and six cents a mile for every mile necessarily travelled in attending upon the meetings of the Board. Such a thing was never heard of before. For ten years previous to the enactment of the present law, the Board regularly met and discharged with fidelity the duties required of them, and that without pecuniary reward or the hope of reward. Their legislation, though valuable to the institution, cost nothing. Not a cent was drawn from the State treasury nor the Seminary fund to pay them. But under the present system what is the fact? The pay dispensation was ushered in on the first of April, 1849. From that period to the present time—about one year and seven months—there have been six meetings of the Board, costing the Seminary fund twelve hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-eight cents! laid out and expended for services which were previously rendered by members of the Board without charge!!

The friends of the University will be gratified to learn that it is now in a flourishing condition. The number of students already in attendance is 104, more than at any former session.

Three hundred and fifty returned Californians arrived at New York, on the 23d.

**NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**—As he deserves, Mr. L. Block does a good business. The American Hotel in St. Louis is opened; and Jo. Dudding wants to buy negroes. Ned. Dunning is doing a tremendous land-office business, and advertises, but he ought to bring in a big advertisement.

**ENROLLING CLERK.**—SAMUEL R. RAYMOND, Esq., of this city, late editor the Hannibal Journal, will be a candidate for Enrolling Clerk of the House of Representatives, at the next session of the Legislature.

To the Editor of the Western Union:

SIR:—I have just read the speech of Col. Benton. I thought at the time that I would give him jesse for his impudence, in offering to sell out the Democratic party to the Whigs. But thinking of it, I have concluded to let him pass for the present. It is no great joke after all; we deserve just such a lambing. We used to get very mad when the Whigs called him our master—dictator, a demagogue, old Humbug, and said when he took snuff we sneezed, &c.—we even gloried in the name of "Old Bullion"—and said we were willing to wear the collar.—In fact it is too true, that we did belong to him; and notwithstanding we did not like it when he ordered that we should go against Banks, and against \$5 bills, yet we thought there was something in it which we did not exactly understand—and went for it. The first thing we did against Banks was to pass the law making it indictable "to pass or offer to pass a \$5 bill." We swallowed it, because he wrote it, but said very little about it. That trick liked to have ruined the party, but because your party would not make the motion to repeal that law, we let it stand, and it is yet the law. But now we have left him, no wonder he thinks he could sell us, as he used to drive us, but he is done driving or dictating to us. We will sell him to the Abolitionists for a very low price, but without recourse, except that we will sell subject to the Fugitive Slave Act—and the Whigs may catch him and keep him if they can.

We will only warrant him "to cut in the eye" any party that gets him.

AN ANTIE.

## To the Public.

Some person with the view to do me injury, has circulated a report, that I secured my election to the office of City Marshal at the late election by means of whiskey, and that to effect this end I had money on deposit in the various groceries in the city to be expended in treating the voters. I deem it but right in justice to myself, to declare such report false in toto, and I challenge any man to prove up the fact. If any french gentlemen will prove it, I pledge myself to present him with a can of oysters.

JOSEPH DUDGING.

**UNION MEETINGS.**—A great and enthusiastic Union Meeting was held at Cincinnati, on the 14th. The Cincinnati Commercial, of which the editors were kind enough to send us a daily, contains a full report.

Mayor Butler, of Nashville, Tennessee, was introduced by the Hon. N. C. Read, who, in a few brief and fervent remarks, pledged the integrity and patriotism of his own State, and that they will heed the voice of the immortal Jackson, that "the Union must and shall be preserved," and due obedience given to existing laws. The speaker was loudly cheered.

The meeting resolved that "the Union must and shall be preserved," and that "love and devotion to it rise above all party considerations." Another great Union meeting was held at Dayton, Ohio, recently, and still another at Nashville, on the 23d. Good news!

**Great fire at Linneus Mo.**—Seven buildings, in Linneus, were burned down on the 13th inst.

Correspondence of the St. Louis Intelligencer.

OREGON CITY, Sept. 23d, 1850.

**Mr. Editor.**—Wishing to correct some of the many misapprehensions that exist pretty generally throughout the states, respecting the mammoth fortunes in store for any and every one, that has fortitude enough to brave the difficulties in going there, I now write to you for the purpose of disabusing the minds of any and all such credulous enough to believe what they see daily heralded about the quarries and mountains of gold in California. How few there are who count the costs fully before starting upon such an expedition. The writer of this has seen something in coming to Oregon; having left the Missouri river, near Old Fort Kearney, on the 13th May, he arrived in Oregon City the 12th August 1850. This is about the quickest trip that has been made this season to Oregon. It is thought that the immigration to this territory will be about 6,000 persons; the families, besides many others, of the better part of the immigration to California, having changed their course to the former.

It has been estimated that the immigration across the plains this season would number 60,000 persons; all these have gone to California except those who came to Oregon and 3,000 who remained at the Salt Lake. The number on the plains was so great, and the grass in many places was so scarce, that all kinds of stock suffered immensely; consequently many of them died by the wayside. Those that were gotten through did not, on an average, realize more than about half the purchase money in the States.

The weekly arrivals from California here, of those who came the overland route, some of whom I know personally, bring intelligence of a most distressing character. On Humboldt or Mary's, river dead horses, mules and oxen, were strewn on either side, for near three hundred miles. Many of their owners had exhausted their supplies of provision, and were reduced to the necessity of subsisting upon the flesh of their mules and horses. Situated as they were 400 miles from any settlements without provision and with the meanest kind of water, and surrounded by pilfering savages, no wonder they thought their fate a hard one. One week in the mines served to convince many that they had been fooled into a "bad scrape." A large number of those who had money enough to take them back, "took water" immediately upon reaching the coast, for their homes; every steamer that arrives at Astoria from San Francisco comes loaded with disappointed Californians, hunting quarters, not for winter,